

Report on the Distribution of Red Creek

During the 1920 Irrigation Season.

by

C. C. Jacob, State Water Commissioner.

*Re = Red Creek
Water Distribution*

General.-

Red Creek, a tributary of Strawberry River, drains a part of the western Uinta Mountain Range. Like all streams of this area, it is characterized by the annual flood period in May and June and low summer and winter flow. A considerable area of good agricultural land is situated convenient to this stream, both on the west and on the east and, as usual, the available acreage greatly exceeds that which can be supplied without storage, from the creek. Immediately following the opening of the Reservation, a number of water filings were made on this stream, most of which were allowed to lapse.

Final proof was made on filing No. 856 for 2-2/3 second-feet of water for 158 acres. As a matter of fact only a fraction of this area has been in crop at any one time, and the area now being irrigated under this filing probably does not exceed 40 acres.

The Fausett filing, No. 1812, for 6 second-feet has apparently been the real "bone of contention" on this stream. It was originally made by six individuals, thru their Trustee, Romanzo Fausett. Three of the individuals lost or abandoned their homesteads, and their rights in the water filing were transferred to the Murdock Bros. who are attempting to make final proof in connection with the other three original parties, after having secured a change in point of use from the State Engineer's office. The Red Creek Irrigation Co., assignees

of the Carey filing No. 3163, following the Fausett filing in order of priority contest the validity of the Murdock Bros.' right in the latter filing, and have heretofore refused to turn down any water for these parties, the Red Creek Irrigation Co. intake being above those of the earlier filings. This has materially handicapped the parties under the Fausett filing in their attempt to cultivate their lands to the end of making final proof.

On July 22, 1920, the writer, acting under verbal instructions from the State Engineer, made a field investigation of the ditches, lands and points of diversion of the various water users on this stream, and a series of current meter measurements, as follows:

<u>Point of measurement.</u>	<u>Gage height.</u>	<u>Second-feet.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
A Red Creek at Road crossing, Murdock Ranch		1.5	Quantity estimated. Most of this is waste water from lands of the Red Cr. Irri. Co.
B Fausett Ditch (filing 1812)	0.75	3.77	Made in flume at headgate, 0.5 sec.ft. passing this gate.
C Red Cr. Irrigation Co. Canal (filing 3163)	0.85	6.20	Made in flume be- low headgate.

Total flow in creek above intake of Red Cr. Irri. Co. canal, 10.5 second feet.

In addition to the above, Geo. Muir had a small stream, estimated as 0.75 sec.-ft. running on a piece of grass land near the creek, most of which was flowing back into the creek. This was ordered cut back into the stream. Above the Muir place, Wm. McMullin was using a stream of approximately 1 sec.-ft. on some grain. The greater part of this water was also flowing into the creek. This stream was ordered cut back into the main channel. Going back downstream

the Red Creek Irrigation Co. Canal was cut from 6.2 to 4 second-feet, reducing the gage height from 0.85 to 0.70. This raised the gage reading on the Fausett Canal from 0.75 to 0.90, giving this canal their allotment of 6 second-feet as ordered by the State Engineer.

An approximate diversion of the water of the Fausett ditch was made at the point where it passes on to the Bench, where Mr. Broadheads lateral takes out. He was given 0.75 sec.-ft., no allowance being made for seepage loss from that section of the canal above. A stake was set in his ditch with the top level with the water surface.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. J. Lacot". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent than the middle initials.

Water Commissioner.